

This Is Teaneck N.J.

A COMMUNITY HANDBOOK



This Is Teaneck N.J.



The material in this book
was prepared by
The League of Women Voters of Teaneck
with the cooperation of the
Teaneck Township Council

DEDICATION

To the Township of Teaneck on the 75th anniversary of its founding, with grateful appreciation to the many citizens who through the years have dedicated themselves to its development as a progressive and vital community. May its future be as dynamic as its noteworthy past.

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Teaneck's First Town Hall

HISTORY

Teaneck, which will celebrate its 75th anniversary in 1970, is Bergen County's largest community, with a population of 46,000. Teaneck has its roots in pre-Revolutionary America. When the first Dutch settlers arrived, they found the land near Overpeck Creek inhabited by the Achinheschacky (later the Hackensack) Indians. Their great leader, Chief (or Sachem) Oratam (Oritani), first of the Indian leaders to befriend the white men, made Teaneck his summer home, with headquarters around present day Fycke Lane. A legend exists that his body is buried near Thomas Jefferson Junior High School.

During this period the Township's name evolved, although its exact derivation remains shrouded in legend. To the Indians we attribute the name "Tekene," their word for "The Woods," descriptive of the topography of this ridge of land. The Dutch had other words for it. "Tiene Neck," one adaptation, appears on early maps and documents. Another explanation is that Teaneck comes from the Dutch words, "Tee Neck," meaning either "curved piece of land bordering on a stream" or "neck of land where willows grow," depending upon the translator.

The first major Dutch landholder in Teaneck was Mrs. Sarah Kiersted. She was granted 2,000 acres of land between the Overpeck Creek and the Hackensack River by Chief Oratam in recognition of her services as interpreter. The Dutch government confirmed this grant, which included much of modern Teaneck. When the English captured New Netherlands in 1664, the new English governor, Sir George Carteret, upheld Mrs. Kiersted's rights, as well as those of other Dutch patent-holders. At that time, the remainder of what is now Teaneck was owned by only five or six people.

In the pre-Revolutionary War period, settlers were encouraged to come to New Jersey by Sir George Carteret and John Berkeley who had been granted the territory by King Charles II of England. Many of these early Dutch, Quaker and Huguenot colonists are remembered today by the streets bearing their names—Demarest, Banta, Brinkerhoff, Westervelt, Van Buskirk, Vandelinda, Zabriskie, and Terhune, to mention a few. In many instances, today's version of these names differs from the original—Vandelinda evolved from the Dutch name Van Der Linde, and Demarest was anglicized from the French Huguenot Des Marais.

The legacy of these people is not merely street names. Many of their descendants still live in town, and some of their homes still stand. The Demarest home on Teaneck Road has been occupied continuously by members of the family since it was built in 1728. Four of these stone houses were selected for study and measurement by the Historic American Buildings Survey as prime examples of "Jersey Dutch" architecture. Most of these homes were built with their sides to the street because taxes were levied according to the number of doors and windows facing the street.

Although many Teaneck farmers, especially those of Dutch origin, were Tories and aided the British during the Revolution, Washington frequently passed through, stopping at the Lozier home. On at least one occasion, he was accompanied by Thomas Paine. The name Tea Neck first appeared in a document in Washington's dispatches, letters and maps.

After the Revolution, Teaneck was part of the Township of Hackensack, which then extended east to the Hudson River. In 1822 Teaneck's first school was started, with classes held in James Purdy's chair shop on New Bridge Road. By 1843 there were three schools, one near New Bridge and River Roads, one at Fort Lee and Teaneck Roads, and one at Forest Avenue and Teaneck Road, a building later to serve as Teaneck's first Town Hall. Agriculture remained the primary occupation of residents until after the Civil War, when the first glimmerings of Teaneck's ultimate development as a residential community could be seen. The first spur to this growth was the completion of the Northern Railway, later taken over by the Erie Railroad.

A man appeared on the scene at this time who was to leave his permanent mark on the land he had chosen, first as a summer home, then for year-round residence. William Walter Phelps, a prominent New York lawyer, moved to Teaneck in 1865, bringing with him dreams of remodeling Teaneck into an area of large well-kept estates. He constantly added to his land holdings until he owned more than half of what is now Teaneck. History accords Mr. Phelps a place for his years in Congress representing the Fifth Congressional District, for his service as Minister to Germany during President Harrison's administration, and for his term as Judge of the New Jersey Court of Errors



Typical turn-of-the-century residence.

and Appeals. Present-day residents owe him a debt of gratitude for laying the groundwork for their modern town with his emphasis on good roads and beautiful landscapes. Trees and roads were Phelps' consuming interests. Throughout his lifetime here he planted thousands of trees, many of which line our streets and grace our yards today. After building his own private roads he set out to promote public sentiment for road improvement in general.

Phelps' first home in Teaneck was a farmhouse, The Grange, on the site of the present municipal building. He kept and improved this home from 1865 to 1889, when the building was destroyed by fire. For years "The Ruins," as they were called, remained as a Teaneck landmark, while Phelps moved into the old Griggs house, now the locale of Holy Name Hospital. After Phelps died in 1894, the Phelps estate administered his holdings.

In Phelps' day, residents in the southern part of the community paid their taxes to Ridgefield, and those in the north to Englewood. They believed strongly, however, that taxes derived from their area should be used locally. Sentiment began to grow in favor of the creation of a separate Township of Teaneck. In 1895 an act creating such a government was passed by the State Legislature. At the first election, held on February 13, William Bennett was elected chairman of the Township Committee. The other members of the

original Committee were Henry J. Brinkerhoff, Treasurer, and Peter Ackerman, Poor House Trustee. The new Committee met for the first time on March 16, 1895, and passed an ordinance licensing dogs at 25 cents each. Among the initial matters it considered were providing electric lighting and an assessment map for the Township.

At this time Teaneck's population was 768; there were 66 houses in town. Residents included many well-to-do New York bankers and financiers who were able to commute on the West Shore Railroad, which had started life a few years earlier as the Jersey City and Albany. Social life was limited largely to church, Sunday visiting, and weekend trolley trips to Paterson and New York. The sporting element found excitement in the harness races held at the track on the southeast corner of Cedar Lane and River Road.

The community, which had been growing at the rate of about two houses a year, began to quicken its pace early in the century. Instead of the usual spreading outward from a railroad station or crossroads, Teaneck grew around its perimeter because of the Phelps holdings in the center of town.

In 1901, Walter Selvage became Teaneck's first real estate developer. He built homes in the vicinity of St. Anastasia Church. The streets intersecting Selvage Avenue—among them Julia, Margaret and Anna Streets—bear the names of this gentlemen's feminine relatives, including his mother-in-law. Another enterprising builder of the day, Nelson M. Ayers, named his development "West Englewood" in order to capitalize on the appeal of its proximity to the elegant and fashionable town of Englewood.

Phelps Mansion



In 1922 the Bergen Evening Record carried the news, "Phelps Estate to be Opened for Development." There were 2,000 acres for sale, and people came in droves to inspect the property. From the real estate office at the present site of the Peoples' Trust Company at Cedar Lane and Palisade Avenue, the only building visible was a railroad shanty. The far-sighted townspeople of that day provided future generations with adequate sewers and paved roads, improvements that most other towns envied after World War II.

The first post office was established in 1918 in the West Englewood Railroad Station, quarters that the postal inspectors considered inadequate and deserving of only a second-class permit. In 1928, the Hackensack post office opened a branch in rented quarters on Palisade Avenue. When the two post offices merged in 1936, a first-class permit was finally granted.

Although the population of Teaneck quadrupled between 1920 and 1930, the opening of the George Washington Bridge and Route 4 in 1931 foreshadowed even more phenomenal development by making the town readily accessible to New York City.

In the late 1920's, many township residents came to feel that a wholesale reform of the local government was in order. Pavements and sewers had skyrocketed the bonded debt to \$301.00 per capita (as compared to a per capita bonded debt of \$14.67 in 1968). The Municipal Building had been erected amidst widespread protest. A disastrous fire on DeGraw Avenue underlined the inadequacy of the Fire Department. The Teaneck Taxpayers League was organized, and supported a referendum to establish a council-manager form of government. It passed by a narrow margin in September, 1930.

The first action of the new Council was to hire Paul A. Volcker as Town Manager. So well did this man chart Teaneck's course during his twenty years at the helm, that in 1949 the town was chosen by the Army Engineers as the model American community. Films of Teaneck were shown in newly conquered Japan as part of the Army's educational program illustrating life in America.

Volcker's first order of business in 1930 was to straighten out Township finances. The books were in such a muddle that the audit took several years to complete. Meanwhile, with the support of the residents, Volcker revised municipal operations. Under his guidance and with the advice of experts, the Township assembled land for future schools and parks. A Master Plan was adopted to prevent helter-skelter growth. The Armory was built as a PWA project and Votee Park (then known as Central Park) started with WPA funds. Moreover, Teaneck earned a reputation as a city with a low crime rate.



Washington Avenue Sunday School

Bergen Junior College moved to town in 1936, taking over the 16-acre Henderson estate on River Road. Through successive expansions and a change in ownership, the campus has become the home of Fairleigh Dickinson University, Teaneck branch. It now covers almost all the territory west of River Road between Cedar Lane and Route 4.

The post-war era brought a tremendous spurt of long-deferred growth to Teaneck. The Phelps golf course off Route 4 and Teaneck Road yielded to bulldozers, and soon 1,000 new homes took its place. Large garden apartment developments mushroomed on Cedar Lane, State Street, and Terrace Circle. Vacant land in West Englewood was snatched up, and today there is almost no undeveloped land available. Teaneck took the lead in New Jersey in providing temporary veterans' housing for many young families. An Army anti-aircraft unit was set up on Fycke Lane for a few years, and then dismantled to be replaced by Thomas Jefferson Junior High School. Several

attractive light industries located here. Almost every church in Teaneck has had a building program during the past decade. Recent years have also seen the erection of three new firehouses and a new police headquarters, and the addition of large wings to the library, originally built in 1927, and to the municipal building. A new post office was dedicated in 1960, and the Windsor Road firehouse was completed in 1968.

Pressures for school expansion increased with the population, resulting in two junior high schools, an elementary school, additions to three existing schools, and a new gymnasium for the High School. Opponents of this building program predicted that by 1970 many of the new classrooms would stand empty, but quite the contrary has occurred. The Board of Education is now considering proposals for a new Master Plan that calls for several new buildings. Meanwhile, better use is being made of existing structures by sending all kindergarten pupils to Washington Irving School and using Bryant School as a Central Sixth Grade. Students in grades one through five, who live in these two districts, attend other schools throughout the Township. This system ensures complete racial integration of all our schools; Teaneck is proud to be one of three towns in the entire United States which did not delay making these changes until forced to do so by a court decree. The sequence of events was the subject of "Triumph in a White Suburb," (Morrow) written by Reginald Damerell, a local resident.

The population growth shown by the 1960 census made an increase in the number of councilmen mandatory. The first seven-man council was elected in 1962. Council meetings are often turbulent, but the keen interest shown by its citizens indicates that Teaneck's electorate is alert and informed, always the best guarantee of continued good government.



TEANECK TODAY

Today our town still displays the characteristics of a quiet suburban community, despite its rapid growth. Because of wise and careful planning, many of the less desirable features of a commuting suburb have been avoided. The Teaneck stretch of Route 4 has been spared the traffic hazards and the unattractive appearance which are the usual concomitants of commercial buildings. Our light industry is well located. We have ample park facilities, and strict control of apartment buildings and housing and shopping developments.

Teaneck is bounded by several other suburban communities. To the north are New Milford and Bergenfield; to the east, Englewood and Leonia; to the south, Ridgefield Park and Bogota. On the west, the boundary line between Teaneck and Hackensack is the Hackensack River.

Although Teaneck is the largest municipality in Bergen County, it has retained its status as a Township. In point of fact, a town does not progress to reorganization as a city as it grows larger. Most towns find it desirable to retain the original type of organization unchanged, despite population growth. State law governs the organization of each department of local government, and a different body of law controls the set-up of departments in a township, city, borough, etc. Should Teaneck become a city, every department would have to be reorganized, a very expensive procedure. Aside from innumerable details of procedure, the primary difference between a township and a city is that in a township the Board of Education is elected, while that of a city must be appointed. Teaneck residents cling jealously to their prerogative to elect their Board of Education.

Council-Manager Government

The Council-Manager form of government, as carried out in Teaneck, derives its authority from the Municipal Manager Law of 1923, which describes the Council-Manager plan as one which "seeks to apply sound managerial techniques to municipal affairs through the services of a trained administrator appointed by the governing body." The intent of the law is to insure a division of legislative from executive responsibility, while avoiding separation of powers.

Under this law, complete control over municipal affairs is vested in an elected council. The size of this council varies from three to nine members, depending upon the population of the municipality. Following tabulation of the 1960 census, the membership was increased from five to seven. These members are elected by Township residents at large, for a term of four years. Each Councilman receives an annual honorarium of \$1,500.

Four weeks after their own election, the Councilmen elect one of their number to act as Mayor.

By law, regular Council meetings are required at least twice a month. In Teaneck, Council meets regularly twice each month, on the first and third Tuesdays at 8:30 p.m., except July and August, when meetings are held on the first Tuesday only. Meetings, which are open to the public, are held in the Council Chamber of the Municipal Building. Special meetings may be called by the Mayor or the Manager, or by two members of the Council, or by petition of the voters. A majority of all its members constitutes a quorum.

In addition to appointing the Township Manager, who is the chief executive officer, the Teaneck Council has created numerous offices and departments to assist in conducting the affairs of the municipality.

Home designed by Edward Durell Stone



GENERAL GOVERNMENT SERVICES

Township Manager

The chief executive and administrative official of Teaneck is the Township Manager, who is appointed by the Township Council to implement the Council's policies, decisions and ordinances.

Although the law does not stipulate that he be trained in the fields of municipal management and administrative law, in practice his complex duties require such training. If he is not a resident when appointed, he must become one within three months.

The Manager's term of office is indefinite, and for the first three years he serves at the pleasure of the Council and may be removed with or without cause. After that, Council may dismiss him only by majority vote on a resolution stating the reasons.



Township Manager Werner Schmid, with Township Clerk Mrs. Roslyn Endick.

The Manager's duties are to:

1. Compile and submit the tentative annual budget and make an annual report for benefit of the Council and the public;
2. Appoint and remove all officials and subordinates for whose selection or removal the law provides no other method;
3. Execute all laws and ordinances of the municipality and recommend to Council such measures as he may deem best on legislation, the financial program, capital improvement, policies, personnel, services and other matters;
4. Make reports to Council when requested.

The Township Clerk is appointed by and responsible to the Council. The Administrative Secretary is responsible to the Manager. The present incumbent holds both positions, and her duties are legion. They are to:

1. Act as recording secretary of the Council, attend all meetings and attend to the correspondence;
2. Attest the signature of the Mayor on all legal documents;
3. Advertise legal notices, ordinances and bids;
4. Maintain an accurate and current record of ordinances passed by the Council, and file and index the ordinances, resolutions, contracts and other legal papers;

5. Take charge of details on the sale of Township-owned property;
6. Take charge of details in connection with elections and registration;
7. Receive and answer complaints of citizens;
8. Issue licenses for peddlers, solicitors, taxi owners, scavengers and liquor establishments;
9. Issue searches for prospective assessments and subdivisions.

Responsible directly to the Manager are the town's salaried employees, including all those concerned with general government services, protection, public works, etc.

Advisory Boards

In addition to the paid personnel of the municipal staff, Teaneck is also served by a large number of public-spirited citizens who donate their time and energies to their community. These men and women are members of the various advisory boards whose role is to assist the Council in forming policy and making law. They study problems, conduct hearings, and make recommendations. Only the Council has power to make final decisions, which may or may not follow the boards' recommendations.

There are at present 8 advisory boards: parks, playgrounds, and recreation; health; community relations; transportation; patriotic observances; business and industry; senior citizens; and youth. Detailed descriptions of their functions are given elsewhere.

Our Town's Finances

The Township Council appoints the salaried officials who take care of the Township's financing and accounting operations: Assessor, Auditor, and Treasurer. The Tax Collector and Purchasing Agent are appointed by the Town Manager.

The tax requirements of the municipality, the school district and the county are arrived at independently, based on three separate budgets. These three tax requirements are added together to become the total tax levy of the municipality. The taxpayer receives only a composite bill, which he pays in four installments.

The Assessor is responsible for the assessment of property in Teaneck. Although he is appointed by the Township Council, the Assessor is an officer of the State and is directly responsible to the County Board of Taxation. The Assessor must be familiar with the appraisal of real estate, property values and taxation.

In 1959 the Council engaged Associated Survey Co., a firm of appraisers, to revalue all taxable property in the Township (except household personal property). This revaluation was made necessary by the Middletown Township case in 1957, in which the Supreme Court directed Middletown Town-

ship to bring its property assessments to 100% of true value. The result of the revaluation was to equalize tax assessments in order to make a fair distribution of taxes throughout Teaneck. However, during the ensuing years market values have increased and the current assessed values no longer reflect 100% market value. As a result, the Bergen County Board of Taxation has ordered Teaneck to conduct a Revaluation Program for tax year 1971. As in every other town, the amount of taxes an individual pays on his house in Teaneck is a product of two factors: its assessed valuation and the tax rate. Provided that the total amount of money to be raised remains the same, the tax rate will decline as the total assessed valuation rises.

The Tax Collector is also the Treasurer and Supervisor of Accounts. As the chief financial and disbursing officer, he keeps Township account books, deposits to the credit of Teaneck all monies received, and supervises payment of Township salaries and bills. He is required to submit monthly reports to the Council.

Audit. The Township books and records are audited annually by a Registered Municipal Accountant, who also acts as fiscal advisor to the Council.

In the tax office.



How the Budget Is Prepared

Preparation of the annual budget starts in early autumn. Each department prepares its own budget estimate and submits it for review by the Township Manager. The departmental budgets are collated by the Township Manager, and combined into the final budget document for review by Council. After formal approval by the Council, the budget is sent to the Director of Local Government in Trenton, who checks it for conformance to regulations under the Budget Laws. As state law requires, the budget must be introduced and approved in public by the Council. It is published in the *Teaneck Sun* at least ten days before the public hearing, which is held at least 28 days after the budget's initial introduction and approval. Amendments may be made at the time of, or after the hearing, subject to several statutory restrictions.

In December, the Finance Department prepares a temporary budget based on 25% of the previous year's municipal operating budget. This covers operation expenses for the first three months of the current year and becomes part of the permanent budget when the latter is adopted.

No later than March 31, the final budget, including the tax levy for local school operations, is sent to the County Tax Board for certification. The County Board determines what share of the county tax Teaneck will pay, calculates the Township's tax rate and certifies this rate to the Township in April. Most of the money is raised by taxes on real and personal property. Other sources of income are license fees, franchise taxes and fines.

Purchasing

The office of Purchasing Agent was established in 1937, in order to eliminate competition among departments. Centralized purchases are made for all departments except the Library. On purchases amounting to more than \$2,500, sealed bids are required. Bids are received at a public meeting by the Township Council. The Manager recommends to the Council what action should be taken; final decision is made by the Council.

Department of Public Works

Public Works has been defined as being "all endeavors related to the planning, designing, construction, operation, maintenance, repair, and management of the physical facilities and services necessary or desirable to community life."

The care and feeding of 22,000 trees and 230 acres of park land, dawn-to-dark leaf pickup on autumn days, midnight snow removal after winter storms, are typical duties of the Teaneck Department of Public Works, which has headquarters on River Road.

The DPW is staffed by 81 men, headed by a Superintendent of Public Works who reports to the Township Engineer, who is in turn responsible



D.P.W. gravel spreader, circa 1930.

to the Township Manager. The Maintenance Division works for all township departments.

These community housekeepers maintain and repair Teaneck's 115 miles of streets and roads. They maintain and build parks and playgrounds for the Recreation Department; keep public buildings in repair (except for the library, which has its own crew); care for trees and shrubs along the street; repair street signs; and remove garden refuse for homeowners.

The Department controls and regulates the collection and disposal of refuse and also inspects the trucks operated by private scavengers. During the semi-annual trash pick-up, which is announced in the newspapers, scavengers will pick up almost any article left at the curb.

The job of plowing streets during a snow storm begins when two-and-a-half to three inches of snow accumulates. In business areas the snow is removed at night.

Another seasonal task of the DPW is the weekly pick-up during the garden season of garden trash left at the curb. During the winter, garden pick-ups will be made once a month. Residents should notify the DPW of street ruts, damaged street signs and other needed repairs.

Refuse is currently deposited in a county landfill area which is maintained by participating towns on a per-load basis. This area is operated and sprayed

by the Bergen County Mosquito Commission.

The Shade Tree Division, established in 1935, is the division of the DPW which plants and maintains shade trees and shrubs along Teaneck streets and in the parks. A resident who wishes to have a tree planted on the public right of way in front of his home, or an existing tree on such land trimmed or removed, should call the Shade Tree Superintendent. An ordinance prohibits an individual property owner from doing this work himself.

The Division is responsible for all public landscaping. The Teaneck Garden Club cooperates with the Township in maintaining the public greenhouse at Lindbergh Boulevard, and supplying the annual flowers for planting in public grounds.

Treatment of Teaneck's sewage is handled by the Bergen County Sewer Authority. Sewage is measured by meter, and Teaneck is billed yearly by the Authority.

Elections

The only township officials elected by and directly responsible to the voters of Teaneck are the members of the Township Council. Until 1960 Teaneck had five Council members. Since the 1960 census showed a population of more than 40,000, the number of Council members was raised to seven. Elections are held every four years in May. Candidates are elected on a non-partisan basis for a term of four years.

If a councilman dies or resigns while in office, the Council is empowered to appoint someone to serve as councilman until the next general election.

(Note: For information on School Board elections, see page 40 .)

To vote in a General Election, a resident must have the following qualifications: be a citizen of the United States; be at least 21 years old; have lived in New Jersey at least six months and in Bergen County 40 days; be registered.

Anyone qualified to vote in the next election may register in the Township Clerk's office in the Municipal Building up to 40 days before any election. Registration is permanent in New Jersey, but re-registration is necessary if a voter:

- Moves from the county (if he moves within the county, he may transfer registration by mail);

- Changes his or her name by marriage, divorce, or court decree;

- Fails to vote for four consecutive years.

From 1964 on, special presidential ballots are issuable to people who do not fulfill residence requirements within the State of New Jersey. They only permit voting for electors of president and vice president, not for state or municipal officers or public questions. They require: 1. An application; 2. Affidavit of proof of residency—how long in the state and where from.

There are 21 election districts in Teaneck. The polling place for each district is stated on a sample ballot sent before each election to the voters in that district.

Absentee ballots may be cast by mail by members of the armed forces, residents out of state on election day, and people too ill to go to the polls. To obtain an absentee ballot a voter must apply to the County Clerk, Administration Building, Hackensack, in person or by mail up to eight days before an election. Once an absentee ballot has been issued, the holder may not vote in person.

Nonpartisan election information is distributed as a public service by the League of Women Voters of Teaneck. The League of Women Voters is a nonpartisan national, state and local organization. Its purpose is to encourage the active and informed participation of citizens in government. Membership is open to all women citizens of voting age.

The Township Attorney

Under New Jersey state law, every town is required to have a Township Attorney. Any New Jersey lawyer is eligible for this office in Teaneck. He is appointed by the Township Council and serves during its pleasure. Although his is a part-time position, the Attorney has many duties:

He is legal advisor to the Township Council, Manager and all other official departments of local government; he attends all the meetings of the Council, prepares ordinances and resolutions, and represents the Town on all litigation.

There are also separate attorneys for the Planning Board and the Board of Adjustment, and a Township Prosecutor.



PROTECTION TO PERSONS AND PROPERTY

Police Department

Cruising patrol cars, familiar sights on the streets of Teaneck, serve as constant reminders that police aid is always at hand.

The six-division Police Department works out of the town's single police station which is centrally located on Teaneck Road. This building houses a courtroom, jail, radio communications center and photography and fingerprinting labs. The police blotter is at the main desk off the lobby.

Divisions include the patrol unit, the bureau of photography and fingerprinting, the detective bureau, the youth bureau, the records bureau, and the traffic bureau. All are under the command of the Chief of Police, who is appointed by and responsible to the Township Manager. The Department now employs seven women, full time, to augment its personnel. Four of the women are clerks, two are assigned to the records bureau, one to the traffic bureau, and one to the detective bureau. The remaining three are serving as desk assistants on the eight-to-four and four-to-twelve tours assisting the desk lieutenants in the operation of the police desk.

In addition to the regular force, other groups are a part of the police picture. These are the auxiliary police, who are volunteers serving under the Department of Civil Defense, and the school crossing guards, men and women who work part time under the jurisdiction of the traffic bureau.

Teaneck's police system dates back to 1914 when a paid police force was created by resolution. Until then three or four marshalls had made up the entire department.

The police force is open to medically fit men between the ages of 21 and 35 who have a high school diploma or its equivalent, have lived in the State

of New Jersey for at least one year and in one of the thirty-three municipalities approved in the new Residency Ordinance recently adopted by the Township Council, and have passed the State Civil Service examination. Tenure is achieved after a probation period of three months, and after three years patrolmen may take successive examinations for promotion to sergeant, lieutenant, and captain. A promotion is accompanied by a salary increase.

Under the state pension plan policemen may apply for pensions at the age of 55, provided they have served at least 25 years. The mandatory retirement age is 65.

All newly appointed men must attend a basic police course at a school approved by the New Jersey Police Training Commission. The Teaneck recruits have been trained at the New Jersey State Police Academy located in Seagirt, N. J., the Newark Police Academy sponsored by the Newark Police Department, or the Bergen County Police Academy in Mahwah, N. J. In addition, they receive training in firearms identical to that given to FBI men. For this course, which includes target practice, the shooting range on River Road is used. Instruction in the use of radar traffic equipment is also given.

Since July 1968, each member of the department has been entitled to receive an extra \$17 per year in salary for each college credit he completes, leading to a police science degree. At the time this booklet was prepared, about half of the department members were taking advantage of this program.

The Police Department sponsors the Police Athletic League, an organization devoted to young people. PAL runs boxing, rifle, model railroad and ham radio programs. The Department also works closely with the Parent-Teachers Association on traffic safety education.

Although the Youth Guidance Council is not a part of the Police Department, the two groups work together in juvenile cases. Policemen serve as representatives on the Guidance Council, and records of all felonies committed by young people are sent to the Council. These cases are settled out of court whenever possible.

Fire Department

Teaneck's Fire Department regularly receives an excellent efficiency rating by the National Board of Fire Underwriters. The Class B insurance rating is high for a community of this size.

One of the few fire departments in the United States with its own communications facilities, it is equipped with a complete FM radio system. There are 15 to 25 firemen on duty at all times at the four stations, with a



Volunteer firefighters of another era.

deputy chief in charge. The department is directed by a Fire Chief, responsible to the Township Manager.

Modern fire-fighting equipment includes hook and ladder trucks, combination pumper-hose engines and a rescue truck, as well as special cars for the Chief and deputies. They are housed in four stations, on Teaneck Road, Cedar Lane, Morningside Terrace, and in a new station at Windsor Road and West Englewood Avenue.

A comprehensive fire inspection program is an important phase of the Department's work. Weather permitting, one company inspects daily for three hours. The total number of fire prevention inspections made in 1968 was 3,780.

Included in the inspections are all public buildings, both before they receive certificates of occupancy, and three times a year thereafter. A check on the heating system in every new home is required. It is perhaps not well known that the Department will make an attic-to-cellar inspection of any private home on request.

Unscheduled school fire drills are an important phase of the program. Every October, during Fire Prevention Week, brochures and check-lists are sent home with school children. The Department has received national recognition in a Fire Prevention Contest for the last five years in a row. During the same week, speakers on fire prevention are provided for civic groups, equipment is displayed at prominent places, and open house sessions are conducted at the firehouses.



West Englewood Firehouse

Bedridden and helpless invalids may, upon request, receive decals to be pasted on doors and windows, indicating their presence to firemen.

Firemen are appointed on the basis of Civil Service examinations. They must have at least two years of high school education and must pass physical examinations. New men are on probation for the first 90 days, during which time they are assigned to experienced firemen who teach the fundamentals of the job and review the rules and regulations.

Currently, firemen are on duty 56 hours a week, but the Township Council has passed an ordinance creating a 42-hour week starting as soon (after January 1, 1970) as enough new men are appointed to handle the new schedule.

From June to November, an outside drill is conducted in which 30 evolutions, or operations, are performed by each fireman.

In addition to answering fire calls, the firemen respond when summoned to auto accidents, gas leaks, electrical troubles, inhalator cases and minor emergencies such as children locked in bathrooms and squirrels trapped in attics.

The Department also participates with neighboring communities in a mutual aid plan.

The Fire Department as we know it today began in 1920 when the first paid men were hired. From 1915 to 1920 the Teaneck Volunteer Fire Department served the community, and prior to that, four independent volunteer companies operated. Volunteers continued to work with paid men until 1932.

The only volunteers associated at present with the Department are the Civil Defense Auxiliary Firemen, known in Teaneck as the Box 54 Club. A description of their activities will be found in the section on Civil Defense and Disaster Control.

The Fire Chief submits an annual report and budget to the Township Manager, together with his recommendations for changes and improvements.

Municipal Court

The Municipal Court proceedings take place on Monday on the second floor of the Police Building. Criminal, quasi-criminal, disorderly, and municipal ordinance cases (not traffic) are tried at the morning sessions; and traffic cases at the evening sessions. Other court sessions are called only when emergency action is needed. For such cases the Municipal Court Judge is on emergency call to conduct a hearing and set bail and trial date, or to bind over for Grand Jury action.

About 75% of the cases brought into Municipal Court involve traffic violations of state or municipal ordinances. Criminal offenses account for the remaining 25%, although these have been on the increase since World War II.

Our Municipal Court is supported by the town. The court is an integral part of our state court system, which consists of the progressively higher jurisdictions—Municipal, County, Superior, Appellate, and, finally, the New Jersey Supreme Court. Since the 1949 constitutional revision, the New Jersey court structure has been considered a model example of judicial organization.

Municipal Court handles all offenses under the Disorderly Persons Act, some other state acts and all municipal ordinances. Hearings are conducted on all offenses occurring in Teaneck, but jury trials are held at County Court in Hackensack. Other cases referred to the County are those of juveniles, which go to Juvenile Court in Hackensack; probationary cases, which are sent to the Probationary Department; and cases requiring Grand Jury action. Municipal Court has no jurisdiction over civil offenses.

Most of the money collected from fines goes to the County, with some remaining in Teaneck and some going to the State.

The Judge is appointed by the Town Council for a three-year period. He serves on a part-time basis. The other salaried positions are held by a full-time court clerk and a full-time clerk of the Violations Bureau. This bureau is open from 9 a.m. to 5 p.m., Monday through Friday. Here fines may be paid for certain traffic violations which, as indicated on the traffic ticket, need not be returned in Court unless the recipient wishes to plead not guilty.

Civil Defense and Disaster Control

The Civil Defense organization by no means needs an enemy attack to go

into action. Its peacetime activities are vital and extensive.

In Teaneck, Civil Defense and Disaster Control includes auxiliary police and firemen, a medical department, a motor corps and a radio communications group. A 15-man council, consisting of representatives from each of these groups, is appointed by the Town Manager to plan the over-all program. These volunteer groups are organized as a permanent peacetime team under the New Jersey Civil Defense and Disaster Control Act of 1953. Their work supplements that of city employees who make up the main force of Civil Defense.

The approximately 400 auxiliary police assist regular police in traffic control at accidents and other emergencies, as well as at parades, football games and other large gatherings. They take the same firearms course as paid police and accompany police in patrol cars nightly from 8 p.m. to 11 p.m. At other times they are available on request of the Police Chief.

Auxiliary firemen, numbering about 40, respond to multiple alarms. Known as the Box 54 Club, they perform such duties as carrying furniture out of buildings, mopping up excess water, checking the equipment, cleaning up and providing coffee and snacks from a mobile canteen.

The medical department consists of physicians, American Red Cross members and the staff and nurses of Holy Name Hospital.

The control center in the basement of Police Headquarters houses a battery of telephones, a short-wave radio manned by ham operators, and an auxiliary generator. Open phone lines are hooked up to vital spots, including fire headquarters, Red Cross, and the Ambulance Corps. Other open lines receive emergency calls from all districts of Teaneck. Requests for aid are relayed to appropriate department heads who dispatch personnel and equipment.

When it was first organized, Civil Defense raised its funds through paper salvage and similar projects; it is now a budget item.

Building Inspection

The Building Department exercises control over all construction in the Township to ensure that it conforms with the building code. The Department also enforces zoning ordinances as they apply to the placing of buildings and the use to which the buildings are put.

The Building Inspector is appointed by the Town Manager, upon certification by Civil Service. A senior clerk stenographer and a full time assistant building inspector make up his staff.

Under Township Ordinance, all new construction, additions, alterations, repairs, reroofing and residing of buildings within the Township require a permit. A minimum of four field inspections are made on every new build-

ing; one before the foundation is poured, the second before backfill of the foundation, the third after the framing is in and before the lathing commences, and the last when the building is completed. On larger projects three or more additional inspections may be required.

Several phases of construction are not under the direct control of the Building Department. The Plumbing Inspector is responsible to the Health Department and makes inspections of all plumbing work, although there is close cooperation between the Plumbing Inspector and the Building Department. Electrical inspections are made by the National Board of Fire Underwriters which has an office in Hackensack. In addition, the Engineering Department of the Township may be required to inspect the site on new construction projects. The final certificate of occupancy is issued by the Building Department after ascertaining from all other interested Township departments that the building complies with all Township ordinances.

A certificate of occupancy is required for every new business even though it occupies premises that are not new. This is done to certify that the change of use is in conformance with the zoning ordinance and to ascertain that the premises being occupied will contain all the safety features to protect the public, depending on that particular use.

The Building Department also inspects all structures after a fire in order to try to learn the cause and thus prevent a similar occurrence in the future.

In addition to these primary functions, the Department is concerned with enforcement of those provisions of the liquor ordinance which apply to building regulations, and of the swimming pool ordinance. It is also responsible for the inspection of nursing homes, private kindergartens and dormitories. Many of these inspections are done in cooperation with various state agencies.

The Building Inspector is also designated as one of the public officers responsible for enforcement of the recently adopted Property Maintenance Code of the Township of Teaneck. The Property Maintenance Code is a preventive ordinance to set standards for the maintenance of all properties within the Township to prevent any future blighting influences.

The Building Department also from time to time acts as adviser to the Board of Adjustment and the Planning Board.

The Regional Kidney Center was opened at Holy Name Hospital in January, 1969. It will provide hemodialysis for patients with no kidney function. A special fund has also been set up to provide financial assistance for those unable to pay the full cost of this treatment.

Other voluntary hospitals convenient to Teaneck are Hackensack and Englewood Hospitals. Bergen Pines, the County hospital, located in Paramus, offers numerous specialized services, such as contagious disease care,

a mental health outpatient clinic, etc. The Mental Health Consultation Center in Hackensack is also available for consultation by Teaneck residents.

Engineering Department

Chief province of the Engineering Department is the public right of way. The department, which is headed by a licensed engineer and land surveyor, prepares plans and specifications for, and supervises, all street and sidewalk improvements, as well as storm drains, sanitary sewers and parking lot construction. It coordinates with the Department of Public Works for the planning, design and construction of all municipal physical facilities, including utilities, bridges, and recreational facilities, such as tennis courts. The actual work is done by a contractor or, in some instances, by the maintenance, street or other divisions of the Department of Public Works.

Street improvements are initiated by Township ordinance. Residents may petition for improvements on any street, provided that signatures are obtained from the owners of 51% of the frontage. The department may require property owners to replace dangerously deteriorated sidewalks.

The Township is currently in the midst of a 5-year capital improvement program, covering the repair, installation and replacement of sidewalks, on an annual basis.

Street lights are also under the jurisdiction of the Engineering Department, which consults with Public Service in this area. Installation of a new street light requires a resolution of the Council; a shade on an existing light does not.

The Department is concerned also with budget development, determining the needs of the community for the coming year, including both extraordinary and normal routines.

The Township Engineer directs the Engineering Department and the Public Works Department. His office is responsible for keeping up-to-date engineering and tax assessment maps, supplying the Building and Legal Departments and Assessor's office with such engineering information as needed.

Public Health

Quarantines and vaccinations, vital statistics and stray dogs, beauty shops and grocery stores, all share attention in the many-faceted program of the Health Department.

The department, headed by a part-time medical consultant, enforces state and local regulations. The staff is directed by a licensed health officer and includes two licensed sanitary inspectors, a Public Health nurse, a part-time plumbing inspector, a dog warden, a part-time pediatrician, a Registrar of Vital Statistics and a clerk typist.

A well-baby clinic is open year-round to all Teaneck pre-schoolers for an initial registration fee of \$1. It dispenses advice and inoculations and is located in the Municipal Building.

The Department is responsible for the surveillance of communicable diseases and the supervision of quarantine problems. It checks stipulated immunization procedures. Records and certificates of births, marriages, and deaths are its responsibility.

The sanitary inspectors are responsible for enforcing the provisions of the property maintenance-housing code. This includes investigating overcrowding conditions, improper residential garbage and rubbish accumulations, and internal deterioration of buildings and other substandard housing conditions.

Licensing and inspection are important functions. Lodging houses, multi-dwellings, food establishments, laundries, and barber shops are subject to regulation. Milk, meat, utensils, poultry, and fish supplies are analyzed periodically. The Hackensack Water Company analyzes water supplies and submits reports to the department.

The department investigates such health nuisances as stray dogs and dirty lots. It also pays particular attention to rodent and mosquito breeding control.



The Board of Education is responsible for the health of the school population and for health supervision of the school environment. The Board appoints a Chief Medical Inspector, who is aided by three physicians and nine school nurses. Their duties include the physical examination of all new students. Children in kindergarten, second, fifth, eighth, and eleventh grades and all school personnel are examined every other year. All students participating in sports are examined every year.

Volunteer Ambulance Corps

At one o'clock in the morning or in the middle of a busy working day the Volunteer Ambulance Corps is ready to spring into action. The services of the 32 volunteers, all first-aiders, are available without charge. The Corps, which is headed by a Captain, is equipped with two ambulances and necessary medical apparatus and supplies, such as cardiac chair, oxygen, etc. Teaneck Township pays for gasoline and headquarters maintenance. All other expenses are paid from voluntary contributions. The Corps will lend, without charge, such necessities as wheel chairs, walkers, and crutches.

In 1968, the corps went out an estimated 1,450 times, including about 900 emergencies.

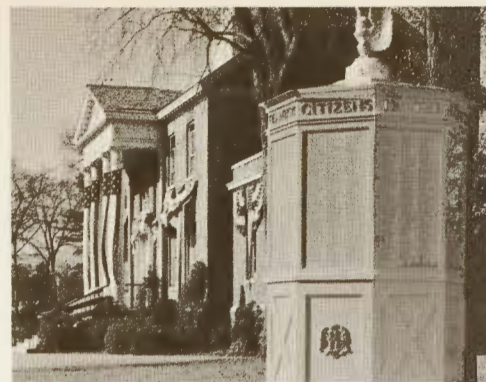
Hospitals

Founded in 1925 by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Newark, Holy Name Hospital has grown from a 70-bed hospital to an institution of 350 beds and 52 bassinets. The hospital takes care of approximately 12,000 in-patients a year, while nearly 60,000 outpatients receive treatment. About 7,000 operations are performed annually, and about 1,900 babies are born.

The hospital's nursing school has an enrollment of approximately 200. It also offers training for medical and X-ray technicians.

Holy Name's Poison Control Center offers quick, reliable information on the antidote and treatment for any poison, at all hours of the day or night.

Holy Name provides the usual facilities of a first-class community institution, including emergency, X-ray, and pathology departments whose services are available to the public.



OUR ADVISORY BOARDS

The Advisory Board on Transportation was established by the Council to aid residents in coping with the trials and tribulations of public transportation. The Chairman and two other members of the Board listen to citizens' complaints of buses which fail to stop at designated corners, etc. These complaints are forwarded to the proper authorities. The members of the Board are working with the Bergen County legislators to create a State Transportation Authority, with a view toward reinstatement of railroad lines which have been discontinued. A bill has been introduced in the Senate and is now in committee.

The Architectural Design and Site Review is a Sub-Committee of the Planning Board. Its purpose is to keep Teaneck attractive by insuring proper site proposals and appropriate landscaping and to prevent the construction of offensive or inappropriate structures that would impair property values.

The Building Inspector submits all plans for proposed construction for approval and/or recommendations. Meetings are held the first Monday of each month at 8:00 P.M. in the Municipal Building or more often if occasion arises. The committee consists of five members appointed by the Mayor. At present the committee includes two registered architects, one builder, one County Agricultural Agent, and one lawyer.

The Advisory Board on Business and Industry was created to serve as the formal means through which active citizen participation is provided to assist and advise the Council with respect to programs for the orderly growth, development and improvement of the business community. Its functions include (1) the use of the skills, knowledge, and experience of its members to assist in developing objectives and goals for improvement; (2) to serve as the medium for bringing private resources into the program; (3) to recommend and report on those problems specifically requested by the Mayor and

Council, and (4) to serve as a medium for the promotion of private programs in support of workable program objectives. Its members are appointed by and serve at the discretion of the Township Council.

The Advisory Board on Parks, Playgrounds and Recreation is appointed by the Township Council. Members are appointed for one-year terms, from June 1 to May 31 of each year.

It conducts investigations, studies and surveys related to park areas, facilities, program, personnel policies and practices. The Advisory Board meets with park and recreation administrators in regular monthly meetings. Meetings are also scheduled with other individuals, groups and agencies as conditions warrant. A professional park consultant has been retained to develop a master plan for all of Teaneck's 19 parks.

Patriotic Observances Advisory Board

Teaneck's successful holiday parades do not just happen. They are the results of skillful planning by the hard-working Patriotic Observances Advisory Board. This group is in charge of parades and ceremonies for Memorial Day, July Fourth and Veterans Day.

Each of Teaneck's three veterans' organizations is represented on the board by its commander and one other member. There is one representative from each of these Township organizations: the Boy Scouts, the Girl Scouts, the Gold Star Mothers, the Board of Education, and the Red Cross.

The Council appoints seven at-large members, and selects one of the members to serve as chairman of the unit. The secretary is appointed by the Township Manager.

The board, created by the Council after World War II, was reorganized by the Council early in 1970.

Advisory Board on Community Relations

In December, 1959, the Town Council established for the first time in Teaneck's history an Advisory Board on Community Relations, representing a cross-section of the community. The purpose of the Board is to promote good will and understanding between the various racial and religious groups within the Township, mainly through educational means.

During the ensuing years, the Board has continued its work for better relationships, not only between different ethnic, racial, and religious groups but also between quarreling neighbors and between youths and adults suffering from a "generation gap." It has accomplished its ends through workshops, cottage meetings, mediation and even weekend seminars. The Board is glad to speak before private groups and organizations and is always

pleased to hear from township residents who feel they could benefit from its services, which are voluntary. For assistance, call the Municipal Clerk at 837-1600.

Senior Citizens Advisory Board

The Board is composed of a chairman and 11 members. It meets once a month to consider the many special needs of Teaneck's senior citizens. In cooperation with the Department of Housing and Urban Development and using federal funds, the council has set up a housing authority which has been empowered to take over existing apartment buildings for use by senior citizens at low rentals. The Board is striving to implement the construction of new housing, as well. It also works to improve other services needed by older persons on small fixed incomes, such as more tax relief, increased recreational facilities, information on job opportunities, etc.

Youth Advisory Board

Early in 1969, the council created a Youth Advisory Board, consisting of students from the public and private schools, as well as teenagers no longer attending school.

Welfare Bureau

Needy residents receive emergency assistance from the Teaneck Welfare Bureau, which is managed by a Welfare Director and governed by state policy. Funds come jointly from the State and from the Township. Families receive assistance according to budgets fixed by the State. Determining factors are the size of a family and the ages of its members. All assistance is in the form of vouchers (for food, rent, clothing, utilities), never cash.

The Local Assistance Board is appointed by the Town Manager, with Council approval. It consists of three members, two serving a two-year term and the other a one-year term. The Board in turn appoints the Welfare Director, a paid employee. This appointment must be approved not only by the Township Manager and the Township Council, but also by the Bureau of Assistance at Trenton. The Board and the Director consult regularly on administration of welfare in Teaneck. The Teaneck Director is in the office four mornings a week, and by appointment.

The services of Federal, State, County and local agencies meeting the various specific needs of residents are available to the local Welfare Bureau, and the Welfare Officer can refer clients to any of these and to private agencies as well. A sampling of those available are the Visiting Homemakers Service of Bergen County, the Bureau of Children's Services, Planned Parenthood, etc. An extensive directory of available agencies is published by the Bergen County Council of Social Agencies.

The Teaneck Community Chest has established a Teaneck Welfare Committee as the specific agency of the Chest to give special monetary aid to

residents not eligible for regular assistance under the state law governing the Welfare Bureau. The work of the Committee is handled by the Director of Welfare of the Welfare Bureau without cost to the Community Chest.

Typical cases handled by the Teaneck Welfare Bureau include: purchase of corrective shoes for a mother of small children; purchase of glasses for fifth-grade boy; dental work for several school children; purchase of boots and raincoats for children. Most of the help given to children is on referral from the public schools.

The Welfare Director also acts as Teaneck's representative for the Salvation Army; the facilities and aid of that organization are available to residents through her.

Youth Guidance Council

Under provisions of the State's Youth Guidance Council Act passed in 1947, Teaneck's Youth Guidance Council was set up in 1949. It is supervised by the Department of Community Affairs.

By law, the seven-man committee includes representatives of the police department and the school system, one elected official, and four members of the community who have a background in youth work. They are appointed by the Township Manager, with the advice and consent of the Township Council, for staggered three-year terms. The chairman is elected annually by the members, who are unpaid. The operating budget of \$1,000 a year is paid by the Township.

The council tries to avoid publicity about its work; all cases are confidential.

Hub of the Youth Guidance Council is the Adjustment Committee which receives referrals from police, school, welfare, health and youth agencies, and from distraught parents. After the secretary has recorded and prepared the cases, this Committee reviews and evaluates the facts and makes recommendations. A case of simple mischief may result merely in a letter to the parents. Recommendations may also be made to school authorities, police or Juvenile Court. By law, grand larceny, sex, and drug offenses must go to Juvenile Court.

The basic philosophy of the Youth Guidance Council is concerned with prevention; thus, research into various phases of youth activities is essential. Research is undertaken periodically by specially appointed fact-finding committees.

The several standing committees of the organization include: Civic Affairs, Recreation, Parent-Child Relationships, and Mass Media.



PLANNING AND ZONING

Planning

The goal of planning is to attain and maintain a good environment and optimum community opportunities for all citizens. This is done by establishing specific objectives for the use of the community's physical facilities. In other words, it is done by setting down in writing a definition of what the community's balance is to be and how it is to be achieved. This balance varies with the planning objectives of each community, but in all cases deals with the following factors:

- The basic planning concept of the community.
- Land use in terms of zoning, to attain the basic planning concept, and the reservation for public use of specific parcels of land, including those required for recreation and education.
- The residential mix (density) desired; that is, the ratio of multiple dwellings, single family dwellings, and determination of the desirability of high rise apartments.
- The financial structure of the municipality in terms of its tax base, to assure sufficient income to enable the planning program to be realized without excessive burden on the taxpayer.
- Commercial and industrial needs of the community, conducive to improved employment opportunities.
- Traffic patterns and flows in the design of roads and streets.
- Municipal government land and building requirements.
- Utilities serving the community.
- Relationships with the surrounding communities.
- The esthetic appearance of the community.
- Urban renewal.

The Master Plan

All of the above factors become a part of the Master Plan in varying degrees in accordance with their importance and relevance to the objectives of the community involved. The goal of the Master Plan of Teaneck is to preserve the image of the town as a relatively low-density community with a high level of public services.

The Master Plan is the written planning program of the community, as established by the Planning Board, in the form of maps, charts, drawings, and supplementary documentation. It is subject to the constant review of the Planning Board, with an eye to revision as time and desirable change may dictate. Revisions of zoning ordinances or passage of new ones are recommended by the Planning Board to the Council, which makes the final decisions. Teaneck has what is termed mutually exclusive zoning, i.e., neither higher nor lower uses are permitted within any given zone.

Because Teaneck's Planning Board does not have a staff of experts as do the planning boards of large cities, it hires, when necessary, professional planning consultants. The Master Plan was extensively revised several years ago with the assistance of such a firm, and a study is currently being made of the Cedar Lane area. In 1969, the council appropriated funds for a full-time professional planner.

Planning Board

Teaneck's Planning Board consists of the Mayor, one township employee (presently the Town Manager), one member of the Council (presently the Deputy Mayor), and six non-salaried citizens appointed for six-year terms, with one appointment expiring at the end of each year. At its monthly meetings, which are open to the public, the Board may hear recommendations, proposals, or argument from interested parties on pending matters. Its decisions are subject to appeal to the Council. Its functions include:

- Creation, review and revision of the Master Plan, including such studies, surveys and investigations as it deems necessary.
- Approval or disapproval of proposed zoning ordinances or amendments thereto.
- Action upon applications for subdivision of land; approval or disapproval of such subdivisions.
- Recommendation of a capital improvement program.
- Recommendations on sale of land.
- Studies of other matters referred to it by the Council or other Boards.

After adoption of a Master Plan, the Council, the School Board, and any other public agency must refer capital improvement projects necessitating the expenditure of public funds to the Planning Board for review and recom-



mendation. Planning Board decisions may be overruled only by a majority of the full Council.

Zoning

One of the most important and most extensively used tools for implementation of the Master Plan is zoning, as controlled through a municipal zoning ordinance. The N. J. Municipal Zoning Enabling Act of 1948 describes the rights and duties of the municipalities with regard to zoning. It states that one of the prime purposes of zoning is to encourage the most appropriate use of land.

Zoning is the division of a community into zones and districts. Its purpose is to control the use of present and potential properties with a view toward promoting health, morals and general welfare. It is concerned primarily with the height and bulk of buildings, the portion of a lot which buildings may cover, and population density. It designates locations for uses of land and buildings, while ensuring that each use is in the most appropriate place.

Board of Adjustment

The Board of Adjustment consists of five non-salaried members, who do not hold any elected office in the municipality, and two additional members who are called alternates. These alternates act as substitutes when regular members are absent. They are appointed by the Township Council for overlapping terms of three years. The Board of Adjustment might be described as a court of appeals. The Board has a sworn duty to uphold the zoning ordinance, but it also provides a means whereby citizens may gain relief from the strict application of the ordinance.

No deviation from the ordinance may be granted by the Council unless it is has been approved by the Board of Adjustment. In certain types of cases, the Board's word is final and cannot be countermanded by the Council. In other cases, the Board makes a recommendation to the Council, and the Council makes the final decision, which may or may not follow the Board's recommendation. Each case is decided on its individual merits.

The functions of the Board include hearing applications of appeal in any of these classes:

Interpretation: To hear and decide appeals where it is alleged that there is an error in any order or decision made by an administrative official based on or made in the enforcement of the zoning ordinance. Interpretation of the zoning map is also a prerogative of the Board.

Exceptions: An exception is a type of departure from the zoning ordinance which must have as its justification that it contributes to the public good. The Board is permitted to recommend that the Council grant exceptions to permit in a zone certain uses or departures from the zoning code which are not

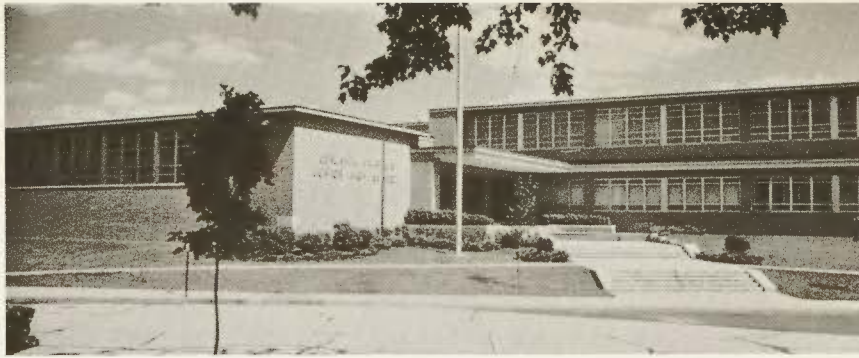
generally admitted in that zone. Such exceptions must meet certain conditions in the zoning ordinance itself: the ordinance must state the type of exceptions that may be granted, and specify what important conditions must be met. For example, the Teaneck Board of Education made application to erect portable classrooms in a zone not permitted. Since the request was for the public good and came within the criteria of the zoning ordinance, the Board of Adjustment recommended to the Council the granting of the exception with a condition that the Board of Education landscape the grounds.

In granting relief, the Board of Adjustment may impose reasonable conditions, such as installation of a picket fence, the planting of shrubbery, specific set back and side yard requirements, etc. Many times the Board requires that the applicant confine his activity to a certain business or occupation.

Variances: A variance is a type of departure from the zoning ordinance which must have as its justification that adherence to the ordinance, with specific regard to the characteristics of the property, would result in a hardship or injustice to the owner.

There are two types of variances. A use variance involves permitting a use in a zone which ordinarily excludes that use; for example, a two-family house in a one-family zone. A non-use variance involves permitting minor modifications such as lesser set-backs, lower roof-ridges, etc.

As an example of the basic difference between an exception and a variance, take the hypothetical case of a request for permission to erect a restaurant building in an area which is zoned for one-family homes only. If a real need for the building can be proved to the Board's satisfaction, an exception may be granted. If, after granting of the exception, a further request is made for changing the location of the building on the plot, permission to make this change would constitute a variance.



EDUCATION

Board of Education

Elections for Board of Education are held each year on the second Tuesday in February. When the second Tuesday falls on a legal holiday, the election is held on the following day. Qualifications for the School Board are as follows:

Board members must be citizens and residents of the territory contained in the district for at least two years, must be able to read and write, and may not be interested directly or indirectly in any contract or claim against the board. Whenever a member ceases to be a bonafide resident in the district, he must immediately cease to serve.

The Board consists of nine members. Three members are chosen at each annual election for a term of three years. A vacancy in the Board must be filled at the next annual election, and the person elected to fill it is elected for the unexpired term only. The Board may fill a vacancy in the membership. However, the person so appointed may serve only until the next annual election.

The organizational meeting of the Board of Education is held at 8:00 p.m. in the auditorium of the Thomas Jefferson Junior High School on the first Monday following the annual election.

If, however, it cannot take place on that day it must be held within three days thereafter. The organizational meeting constitutes a regular meeting of the Board. A majority of the members constitutes a quorum at all board meetings.

Public meetings are held on the second Wednesday of each month, and are well attended.

The financial affairs of the Board of Education are taken care of by the School Business Administrator—Secretary of the Board. He is appointed

by the Board, and achieves tenure after three years in office. He cooperates closely with the Superintendent. The Secretary is the Board's official representative; he acts for the Board whenever it is not in session. It is his duty to take care of all minutes and correspondence. He is also in charge of purchasing. He works with the Superintendent of Schools to establish the budget; once established, he supervises its operation, controlling all expenditures. The payroll is his full responsibility. He must make federal, state and pension reports. The arrangement of all details connected with Board of Education elections are in his hands; this includes budget items and special propositions, as well as election of members to the Board.

The Budget

Teachers are asked to submit budget requests to the principals, who in turn forward them to the Superintendent of Schools. He and the Secretary of the Board receive all recommendations from principals and directors. These are classified and recommendations are made to the Board of Education for all budget items.

According to State law, early in January the Board of Education must prepare a tentative budget, which is usually printed and circulated. After one or two public hearings, during which questions are answered and suggestions are heard, a final budget is adopted.

Teaneck residents vote on the school budget on the second Tuesday in February. If any section is rejected by the voters, State law provides that the budget is submitted to the Town Council, which has ten days in which to act. It may vote to certify the amount to be raised by taxation; this may reduce the budget or leave it unchanged. If the Board does not agree with this decision, it may appeal to the State Commissioner of Education. If the Council takes no action, the budget must be submitted to the State Commissioner. He may raise the figure, lower it, or leave it unchanged, and his decision is final.

Federal Aid

At present, Teaneck receives Federal Funds for library and audio-visual materials for general school use. Funds are also provided for teaching aids and special consultants for the disadvantaged child.

State Aid

Teaneck receives the minimum amount of aid from the State, as determined by the assessed evaluation of the district. At present this amounts to \$100 per pupil, based on the average daily enrollment. According to law, in order to qualify for State Aid, a municipality must schedule a minimum of



Teaneck High School

Finally, the Superintendent must conduct a public relations program to keep the citizens informed of the activities, needs and successes of the schools.

Teaneck now employs no new teachers with fewer than four years of college training. Some older teachers still remain who have only two or three years of higher education. As of 1969, the instructional staff numbers approximately 450. Of these, 220 have a Bachelor's degree or are at the four-year level on the salary scale, 155 are at the 5-year level, 71 are at the 6-year level, and 2 have Doctoral degrees. The philosophy of the Board of Education encourages teachers to work toward advanced degrees, and teachers receive tuition reimbursement upon successful completion of approved courses.

A teacher automatically obtains tenure with the awarding of the fourth year contract.

Teacher workshops are held periodically on a regular basis at the elementary level in the broad areas of mathematics, social studies, science, language arts and sex education. In-service courses are offered in various subjects including sensitivity training. The teachers work together in inter-school grade-level committees to review, revise and improve the course of study outlines. Also, inter-grade committees work toward integration and coordination of the curriculum in given study areas.

The teachers salary guide, effective September 1, 1969, is as follows: With a Bachelors degree a teacher receives a minimum of \$7,000 the first year and may advance in twelve steps to a maximum of \$10,891; With a Masters degree the range is \$7,500 to \$13,164 in fifteen steps; With a Masters degree plus 32 credits the range is \$8,000 to \$14,618 in sixteen steps; With a Doctorate the range is \$8,500 to \$15,532 in sixteen steps.

Additional benefits include full medical insurance, sabbatical leaves and a retirement plan.

Buildings

There are eight elementary schools in the township. These include School #2, Washington Irving, instituted as the Central Kindergarten in September of 1968, and School #6, Bryant, which houses the Central Sixth Grade, established in September of 1964. Children living in the areas formerly served by these two buildings are distributed throughout the other six schools in an effort to solve the problem of racial imbalance and at the same time to provide equal educational opportunity for all children. There are two junior high schools, Thomas Jefferson and Benjamin Franklin, and a senior high school. In addition, some special education classes are held in the Town House, and a nominal rent is paid to the town by the Board of Education for the use of these rooms.

Enrollment

As of October 1, 1969—the traditional annual reporting date—the total enrollment in Teaneck schools was 8,331.

Central Kindergarten	573
Elementary grades 1 through 5	3,020
Central Sixth Grade	634
Thomas Jefferson Junior High School	1,147
Benjamin Franklin Junior High School	842
Senior High School	2,047
Special Education classes—elementary level	56
Special Education classes—secondary level	12

In addition, there were 58 Teaneck students enrolled in vocational school.

Attendance

School attendance is supervised by the State of New Jersey and enforced by Teaneck social workers. The State requires a child to attend school whenever it is in session, until he reaches the age of 16. Illness and observance of religious holidays are the only reasons for excused absences under State law.

Highlights of the Teaneck School System

In addition to the regular curriculum, several special features are worthy of note. Psychometric and achievement tests are given to all students per-

iodically as they progress through the system. The services of reading consultants and learning disabilities specialists are available to assist the regular classroom teachers in diagnosing and evaluating student needs. School psychologists and social workers are also on hand for those in need of their services. In addition, college and career guidance is offered in the high school. Health supervision is provided in each school by qualified medical personnel.

The mathematics and reading programs in the elementary schools are based upon the concept of individualized instruction, which allows each child to proceed at his own rate. At the present time, each elementary school has in operation a non-graded prototype class consisting of six, seven, and eight year old children. Three teachers work with the group and utilize team teaching methods.

Learning centers, staffed by part-time librarians, are located in each elementary school. They provide books, tapes, film strips, and other audio-visual equipment. The junior high schools and the high school also house libraries which contain a wide range of materials.

Special subjects, such as physical education, art, and music are taught under the supervision of consultants trained in these fields. Beginning in the fourth grade any interested student may receive group instruction in the playing of any regular orchestra or band instrument. This instruction may be continued through the higher grades at no cost to the student. Minor course credit is given for band, orchestra and chorus at the secondary level. The public has an opportunity to hear these groups at concerts which are presented periodically.

A wide range of extra-curricular activities is available beginning at the Central Sixth Grade. Those offered on the secondary level include school newspapers, yearbooks, student council, student service clubs, dramatics, debating, science clubs, mathematics, chess, languages, literature, inter- and intra-mural sports with their attendant cheer-leading, twirling and marching bands. Among the sports are baseball, basketball, cross-country, football, soccer, track and wrestling. The emphasis is not all on interscholastic competition, and students of all abilities are urged to participate in intra-mural athletics.

The foreign language program begins in the seventh grade and continues through high school, thus allowing a five year study of a modern language, with a college-level course offered in twelfth grade. At the present time, only French and Spanish are offered in seventh and eighth grades. Latin and German are also available in ninth grade, and Russian, Italian and Hebrew are added to the curriculum in the High School.

Typing is a required subject in the eighth grade, and students new to the

system must take it in ninth grade. A course in computer instruction is offered in the High School.

Honors courses in mathematics, English and social science offer an enriched program for high school students. College-level advanced placement courses in science, English, mathematics and social science are available in the twelfth grade. Qualified students may undertake independent study in any of several subjects in eleventh and twelfth grades.

Distributive education is a recent innovation which allows high school students to gain on-the-job experience while attending regular classes part time. At present students are employed as salespeople, travel and airline clerks, secretaries, stock room personnel and checkers. In the trade and industries area, students acquire working experience in service stations, auto garages and industrial plants. Those desiring more technical training in these and other fields may attend the Bergen County Vocational and Technical High School in Hackensack. The Board of Education pays for their tuition and transportation.

Accreditation

The Middle States Association of Colleges and Secondary Schools has approved the continuance of Teaneck High School on the accredited membership for a period of two years as of January 1969.

Special Education

The Beadleston Act of 1966 states that the Board of Education must provide education for every child between the ages of five and twenty. There are several special classes for educable, trainable, and neurologically impaired children and one class for children with communicative disorders. In addition, many students are sent to schools or institutions outside of Teaneck.

Speech correction and supplemental instruction are provided as needed at all levels.

When illness necessitates an absence from school of more than two weeks, bedside instruction is provided without charge by the Board of Education. Application, in the form of a physician's note, must be made by the parents to the Beadleston Child Study Team through the school nurse. The Chief Medical Advisor will review all applications and help render a decision.

Summer School

The summer school is a financially independent institution which serves both elementary and secondary students. However, the Board of Education permits the use of its facilities and pays administrative expenses. Faculty salaries are covered by tuition fees paid by students. Non-credit courses in various academic areas are offered as well as arts and science workshops.

Adult Education

Teaneck's Adult Education School is one of the fifteen largest in New Jersey. Classes are held during the winter months, two nights a week, for nominal fees. The school is a financially independent institution which is permitted by the Board of Education to use the facilities of Teaneck High School. The Superintendent of Schools has the right to approve its program. A financial report is submitted each year to the Secretary of the Board of Education.

The Director of Adult Education is appointed by the Permanent Advisory Committee, with the approval of the Superintendent of Schools. This Committee is composed of individuals who have in the past taken courses at the school, have been elected as classroom representatives to its student council, and have indicated continued interest in its affairs.

Over 50 courses are offered, including languages, commercial subjects, and courses on leisure-time activities such as bridge, oil painting and sewing. Each class is taught by an expert in the field. High school equivalency courses, leading to a high school diploma, are well attended.

The Teaneck Community Scholarship Fund is an autonomous organization that provides financial aid to Teaneck High School graduates from the upper 75% of the class, for their first year of college or vocational training. Awards are based on need, as established by the College Scholarship Service in Princeton. Funds are obtained from local organizations (PTA's, religious and civic groups, business and industry, etc.) and from individuals. The program is administered by volunteers, with much cooperation from the Teaneck High School Guidance Department.

Two organizations enrich our students' understanding of other nations, by importing boys and girls to live as members of Teaneck families (and attend the high school) and by sending Teaneck students abroad. The American Field Service, an international organization, brings students from more than sixty different countries to stay a full school year. Teaneck students have summered in Sweden, Thailand, etc.; others have spent a full year in Brazil, Italy, etc. Open Door, a more limited program, brings students from Spanish-speaking countries of South America to live with local families for ten weeks; these same families are then eligible to send a son or daughter to South America for the summer.

Other Educational Institutions

Private Schools. Birches Nursery School offers a registered pre-kindergarten program in early childhood education, with half-day sessions for three and four-year-olds. Copley Nursery School offers a registered pre-kindergarten program, with either half- or full-day sessions, for children ages 2½ to 5. Musical Primer offers pre-school music for three- and four-

year-olds. Other accredited schools are located in surrounding communities. The Leonard Johnson Nursery School, in nearby Englewood, deserves special mention, since its full-day program, which includes a hot lunch, is a boon to working mothers.

Parochial Schools. St. Anastasia's Grammar School has classes from kindergarten through eighth grade, with a total enrollment of 500 to 600 students. St. Joseph's in Bogota serves about 450 Catholic children from Southern Teaneck; about 225 who live in the western part of town attend Holy Trinity in Hackensack.

St. Paul's Lutheran Church, Grace Lutheran School, and the Jewish Community Center religious school all offer accredited half-day sessions for three- and four-year-olds. In addition, the Grace Lutheran School offers a full academic program through sixth grade, with emphasis on small classes and individual attention.

Fairleigh Dickinson University

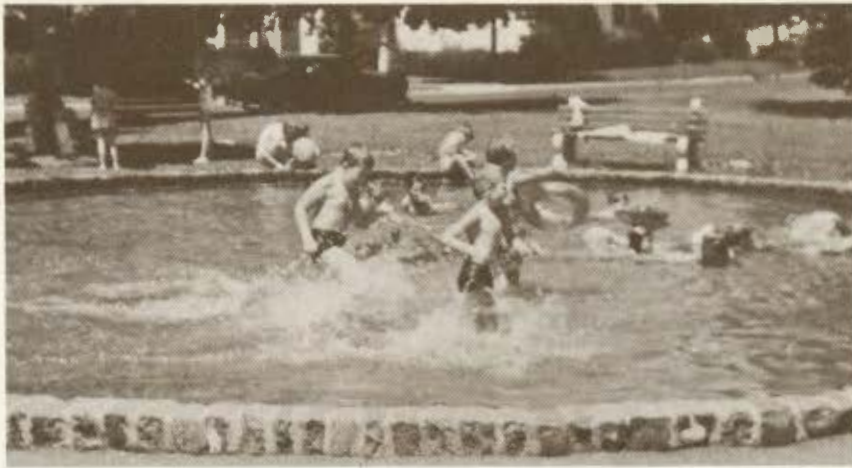
Fairleigh Dickinson University conducts day, evening and summer sessions at its Teaneck campus. Associate in Arts, Baccalaureate and Masters degrees are offered, or courses may be taken without credit.

The Reading Clinic at the Teaneck campus is open to children and adults who need or wish to increase their speed and comprehension in reading. Many programs are given each year in which Teaneck residents may hear discussions on current topics, music, poetry and drama. University convocations are held Wednesdays at noon.

The Town and Gown Society is open to the public and to University faculty and staff members. It acts as liaison between the Township and the University. Members may attend, without charge, lectures, concerts and special events.

Fairleigh Dickinson University





RECREATION

Teaneck's recreation program offers activities for many interests in every age group. The Recreation Department, under the direction of a full-time superintendent, sponsors indoor clubs ranging from a creative dramatics group for the grade school set to a Retired Men's Club and its feminine counterpart, the Women's Social Club. Outdoors, the Department provides supervised play at parks and playgrounds during the warm months.

The recreation program dates back to 1944, when the Department first became an official arm of Township government. The Superintendent is appointed by the Township Manager and has a full-time assistant and a secretary. There is a staff of approximately 150 part-time paid and volunteer workers.

Working with the Recreation Director is a ten man Citizens' Advisory Committee appointed by the Town Council for a period of one year, which assists the Council in formulating policy to be carried out by the Recreation Department.

The Department has its office at the Town House (corner of Teaneck Road and Forest Avenue) where many of the fall and winter activities are conducted. A schedule of activities is widely distributed and is also available at the Town House. New activities are announced in the newspapers.

Special-interest clubs include singing groups (barbershop quartets and the Sweet Adelines), motion picture, chess and camera clubs, and a stamp club. Instruction is offered in baton twirling, dramatics, social dancing, art, golf, tennis and gymnastics. The last activity and other types of gym classes for children and adults are conducted after hours in the schools.

Playground activities begin in spring with after-school supervision and continue with a seven-week full-time program during summer vacation, when counselors are on duty Monday through Friday from 9 a.m. to 12 noon and 1 p.m. to 4:30 p.m. Any Teaneck child, or his guest, may register for the park activities, which include arts and crafts, games, leagues, contests and tournaments, group singing and special events.

Parks and playgrounds are equipped with swings, slides, see-saws, jungle gyms, sand boxes and merry-go-rounds. In addition, there are ten wading pools for children under twelve. These are filled and guarded daily during the swimming season.

Picnic tables and fireplaces in Ammann, Votee and Phelps Parks may be reserved without charge by calling the Recreation Department. Another popular summer activity is the weekly concerts held evenings in Votee Park. Of recent years the Summer Theatre productions have found great favor among Teaneck theater goers. A park highlight of the winter season is the Christmas tree burning at Votee Park in early January, supervised jointly by the Recreation Department and the Fire Department. The year-round sports program includes baseball, softball, basketball, football, volleyball, tennis, table tennis, soccer, gymnastics, cycling, skiing and wrestling.

In addition to conducting its own program, the Recreation Department frequently joins forces with civic groups presenting activities. Staff members advise Teaneck's very active Little League and Babe Ruth League on scheduling, securing volunteer umpires and the purchase of equipment. The Department also cooperates with the Elks in conducting teen-age programs and co-sponsors with the Junior Women's Club the popular "Santa's Mail-box" project.





PUBLIC LIBRARY

The Teaneck library began shortly before World War I as a volunteer enterprise in the sun parlor of a private home. The little group of women volunteers conducted cake sales to raise money with which to buy more and more books, and soon were able to move to a store on West Englewood Avenue. On June 22, 1922, the Teaneck Library Association was incorporated. The new corporation bought an old cabin at 1279 Teaneck Road for the sum of \$2,000. Called "the old slave house," this cabin was supposed to have housed slaves belonging to the mansion across the road.

Four years later, the renovated property was sold for \$15,000. This money was offered to the Township Committee for a municipal library. On November 20, 1927, the new building was dedicated as a tax-supported library. Miss Agnes Norton was appointed head librarian in 1929. During her tenure, which continued through early 1961, the library grew steadily; two wings were dedicated in December, 1936, and two more wings in December, 1953. The modest 2000-volume collection of 1927 now includes over 115,000 volumes. More than 400,000 books are circulated each year. Any Teaneck resident is entitled to take home 10 books at a time and to reserve books at a nominal fee.

The reference room is widely used by all residents, especially students, who flock to consult its large collection of dictionaries, encyclopedias, indexes and pamphlet files. Leading business services (Moody's financial reports, N. J. Industrial Directory, Standard Advertising Register) are available in the business corner of the reference room, in addition to financial periodicals and corporation reports. Questions of all kinds, at the rate of 100 to 150 a day, pour into the library and are handled by its staff of reference librarians.



The music room contains over 3,000 records for home circulation as well as facilities for listening at the library. Records include operas, poetry readings and language courses in addition to popular and symphonic music. More than 10,000 pictures on many subjects, and 200 framed reproductions of masterpieces are available to borrowers. Various magazines, newspapers and pamphlets are circulated. The files on Teaneck and New Jersey are in great demand.

The library has continued to increase its services. It sponsors art and photography exhibits in its auditorium, musical and literary programs, and many other events of community interest. In order to accommodate the many patrons who cannot come during the week and students who must have increasingly more time for study and research, the library is open for four hours on Sunday afternoons. The library's average circulation of more than 1000 books borrowed each day in the year is the largest in the county. More than 24,500 residents use the library each year.

The Children's Room serves boys and girls through the seventh grade. The librarians introduce individuals and school classes to the resources of the library and its services. In addition to 29,000 books on subjects from art to zoology, there are pamphlets, magazines, art reproductions and records, plus mounted illustrations for use as visual aids in school presentations. A growing multimedia collection of filmstrips, tapes and cassettes may be borrowed by parents and teachers. A microfilm reader and Xerox copier

are available. Pre-school story time is a twice-a-week activity; on summer afternoons, there is an outdoor story time for children four to six years old.

A number of other services are offered by the library. Lists of new books and records are issued, as are lists of recommended reading by subject. The displays in the exhibit cases in the main reading room are changed each month. There is much public interest in the hobbies and collections lent by Teaneck residents.

The staff includes 11 professional librarians, 11 full-time clerical workers, and a host of part-time high school and college students.

The five members of the Board of Trustees are appointed by the Mayor for a term of five years. The Mayor and the Superintendent of Schools are ex-officio members. The Library Board directs policy, appoints personnel, and maintains the buildings. In 1968 the budget appropriation amounted to approximately \$4.50 per resident.

A collection of documents and books about the Revolutionary War, housed in the office of the head librarian, is valued at over \$100,000. It was begun in memory of Louise Jordan, one of the founders of the library. The earliest document is dated 1783.

Reader seats and book storage space are now inadequate for the demands of Teaneck residents. Frequently, on week nights, every seat in the reference room is filled, and late arrivals are forced to take notes standing up.

After the voters rejected a new library building proposal in a May 1969 referendum, the Township Council voted in March 1970 to spend \$145,000 to air condition the library building. This was done primarily for the purpose of preserving valuable documents and books, which have been deteriorating from dampness and heat.



LIFE IN OUR TOWN

Local Organizations

It could be said that Teaneck has a split personality. On the one hand, it is the largest municipality in Bergen County, with a non-commuting professional and business force. On the other hand, most of its wage-earners commute daily, and many who formerly lived in New York City retain their urban orientation, even to reading only New York papers.

New York City radio and television stations are the local stations in Teaneck. Museums, Broadway shows and world-famous shops and points of interest are highly accessible. However, Teaneck citizens can lead rich civic, cultural, social and religious lives without crossing the town's boundary lines.

More than 20 religious congregations offer their members a lengthy list of activities in addition to worship and education. These range from lecture series and service projects to social clubs. Although most Teaneck residents attend local places of worship, Central Unitarian Church in Paramus and Ridgewood Friends Meeting number Teaneck families among their members.

Community service projects present endless opportunities for willing workers. Community Chest and other fund drives constantly need people to solicit and perform office tasks. The Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts regularly recruit new leaders. Hospital auxiliary, Red Cross, work for the handicapped and the mentally ill—the volunteer can take his choice of worthy causes.

The list of civic groups includes the Teaneck Political Assembly, dedicated to good government, and the Teaneck Citizens for the Public Schools,

dedicated to ever-better schools. The League of Women Voters promotes informed participation of citizens in local, state and federal government. There are active Republican and Democratic Clubs. All of these groups hold open meetings on vital public issues. The PTA Council is a coordinating and communicating unit, composed of delegates from the individual PTAs (including parochial schools). It sponsors a series of forums at which the public may meet Board of Education candidates.

The purpose of the North East Community Organization (known as NECO) is to promote civic interest in this area of Teaneck among its own residents and among the people of the township as a whole, and to encourage active government participation by residents of the North East. NECO concerns itself with community services and facilities, and with educational, recreational, and cultural opportunities for the youth of the community. It has a broad program designed to preserve and enhance the special quality of this neighborhood, which includes a variety of races, creeds, and cultures.

The purpose of the Teaneck Fair Housing Council is to promote equal opportunities in housing for all people. It works to help whites to buy homes in the integrated areas of town as well as to find houses and apartments throughout the township for non-whites. It has a testing program to obtain proof of cases of discrimination when they occur; it helps prepare legal briefs and affidavits for use by the State Bureau Against Discrimination in Housing; and it carries on an educational program designed to promote interracial understanding.

In 1969, the Teaneck Chamber of Commerce was reorganized and renamed the Commerce and Industry Association of Greater Teaneck. The new name reflects a goal of broader participation, to include not only merchants but also professional men and industrialists. The Board of Directors will work with regional sub-divisions (one each for the Cedar Lane area, the Plaza area, and the industrial members). Plans are being formulated for monthly newsletters and for semi-annual general membership meetings.

Several national men's service organizations have chapters in Teaneck. Numerous social and fraternal groups flourish.

Much excellent music is easily available to local citizens, be they performers or listeners. In Teaneck itself, there is the Bergen Philharmonic (formerly the Teaneck Symphony) and its Women's Guild, which offers the orchestra financial support and gives scholarships to young artists. For singers, there are the Teaneck-Bergen Chorus and, on the lighter side, a chapter of the National Association for the Preservation of Barbershop Singing and the Sweet Adelines. Some of the best-known chamber music quartets in the world are imported by the Art Center of Northern New Jersey for a yearly series at Benjamin Franklin Junior High School. During

the summer, there are weekly band concerts in Votee Park, plus a musical comedy with an all-Teaneck cast of talented teenagers.

In addition to these purely local offerings, there are innumerable groups in nearby towns whose membership is open to Teaneck residents. The Civic Music Association presents concerts featuring soloists and orchestras of international reputation. The Village Opera in Ridgewood presents operas (sung in English by professionals). The Adelphi Chamber Orchestra, John Harms Chorus, and Gilbert and Sullivan Operetta Company all number Teaneck musicians among their participants and list Teaneck music lovers as sponsors of their performances.

The Playhouse-on-the-Mall features live professional theatre: road companies of Broadway shows, revivals of musicals, and even an occasional pre-Broadway tryout. For amateur thespians, the Bergen Players is a stock company with its own theatre in Oradell. There are half-a-dozen other Little Theatre groups throughout the County.

For lovers of dance, there are performances by the Foundation for Modern Dance Education and the Répertoire Dancers of New Jersey.

The Modern Artists Guild, with headquarters in Hackensack, has a membership of professional artists, while the Bergen County Artists Guild is open to amateurs as well.

The YMCA and YMHA, both located in Hackensack, are County organizations whose membership lists are open to Teaneck families. Both the "Y's" have swimming facilities and conduct extensive programs, including summer camps.

Life in Teaneck must necessarily include shopping trips, and here again our town offers a wide range of facilities. Four main shopping areas are located on DeGraw Avenue, Cedar Lane, Teaneck Road and The Plaza. The Cedar Lane area is the largest and has the greatest number of specialty shops, but in all four centers the stores are diverse. Within a fifteen-minute drive are many of the nation's largest shopping centers.

There are two banks in Teaneck, the Peoples Trust Company and the National Community Bank, and two Savings and Loan Associations, the Oritani and the Central Bergen. In addition to nine supermarkets, there are numerous clothing stores, bakeries, cleaners, florists and beauty and barber shops, to mention just a few. Teaneck has antique shops and pet shops, milliners and, of course, toy stores. Almost every shopper's need can be filled by Teaneck businessmen.

Whether one seeks satisfaction for the practical demands of daily life or for cultural needs, Teaneck offers its citizens every facility for a well-rounded existence.

CHRONOLOGY

- 1618** First settlement of white men in New Jersey at Bergen (Jersey City) was sent by Dutch East India Company
- 1645** Chief Oratam signed peace treaty with the Dutch
- 1660** Sarah Kierstad granted tract of land including much of Teaneck, by Oratam
- 1664** English captured New Netherlands
- 1675** Bergen County established
- 1682** Definite boundaries established for Bergen County (not the same as today)
- 1683** First constable chosen; road board set up to lay out roads, bridges and ferries; towns authorized to elect men to levy taxes to defray such costs
- 1693** The General Assembly of East Jersey established Hackensack Township, of which Teaneck was part
- 1822** Teaneck's first school organized
- 1859** Northern Railroad built—this was later leased to the Erie
- 1865** William Walter Phelps bought his first holding in Teaneck
- 1869** School built next to the present Town House
- 1871** Legislature of the State of New Jersey created townships of Englewood and Ridgely from Hackensack Township; Teaneck was part of each
- 1894** Phelps died, June 15; holdings then administered by Phelps Estate
- 1895** Township of Teaneck became independent unit, held first election. William Bennett elected chairman of Township Committee.
- 1896** First electric lights installed
- 1906** Original School #2, now Town House, completed
- 1910** School #1 (Longfellow) built; partially destroyed by fire and rebuilt in 1921
- 1913** Township divided into 2 election districts. There were 530 voters, 423 of whom had cast ballots in the last election
- 1914** Paid police department inaugurated
- 1916** School #3 (Emerson) completed
- 1920** First paid fireman
- 1922** Phelps Estate opened for development in June
- 1923** School #4 (Whittier) completed
- 1925** Holy Name Hospital opened its doors; School #5 (Hawthorne) completed
- 1926** New Municipal Building completed; School #6 (Bryant) completed
- 1927** Teaneck Library incorporated
- 1928** Teaneck Post Office opened
- 1929** Senior High School completed
- 1930** Referendum to change to Council-Manager government passed Sept. 16; Paul A. Volcker appointed Township Manager
- 1931** Route 4 and George Washington Bridge completed; Planning Board started, with Milton Votee as first chairman
- 1932** Votee Park begun as a WPA project of swamp drainage of land which had reverted to the Township for non-payment of taxes
- 1934** School #7 (Lowell) completed
- 1936** Bergen Junior College (now part of Fairleigh-Dickinson University) moved to Teaneck from Hackensack, where it had held classes at the Hackensack Y
- 1941** Present School #2 (Washington Irving) completed
- 1944** Recreation Department founded, with Richard Rodda as first Director
- 1948** James T. Welsh appointed Township Manager
- 1951** Police Building completed; Reference Room and Junior Room wings added to library
- 1956** School #8 (Eugene Field) completed
- 1957** Benjamin Franklin Junior High School completed
- 1958** Thomas Jefferson Junior High School completed
- 1959** Werner Schmid appointed Township Manager
- 1960** New U. S. Post Office dedicated
- 1962** First seven-man Council elected; new wings added to Municipal Building
- 1967** One-lane Grayson Place bridge replaced with two-lane facility
- 1968** Windsor Road Fire House completed

APPENDIX

Places of Worship

(Teaneck) Baha'i Center
Bergen Ethical Society
Christ Episcopal Church
Community Church
Congregation Beth Am
Congregation Beth Sholom
Congregation B'nai Yeshurun
First Baptist Church of Teaneck
First Church of Christ Scientist
Grace Lutheran Church
Jewish Community Center
Jehovah's Witnesses
New Early Christian Church, Seekers After God
Our Saviour Lutheran Church
Presbyterian Church of Teaneck
Saint Anastasia R. C. Church
Saint Mark's Episcopal Church
Saint Paul's Lutheran Church
Teaneck United Methodist Church
Temple Emeth
Trinity Evangelical Free Church
Unity Church of Christ

Teaneck Organizations

American Field Service
American Jewish Congress
American Legion, Teaneck Post #128
 Ladies Auxiliary
American Red Cross
Bergen Philharmonic Symphony
B'nai B'rith

Boy Scouts of America, Tantaqua District
Catholic Daughters of America
Chamber of Commerce
City Club
City of Hope
College Club
Community Blood Association
Community Chest
Community Scholarship Fund
Cooper Avenue Garden Club
Deborah
Democratic Club
Elks Lodge #2080
Ethical Culture Society
Fair Housing Committee
Free Sons of Israel Auxiliary
Friendly Town Committee (Fresh Air Fund)
Garden Club
Girl Scouts of America, District #1
Gold Star Mothers of Teaneck
Hadassah
Holy Name Hospital, Teaneck Auxiliaries
Jaycees (Junior Chamber of Commerce)
Jewish War Veterans, Schweiger-Dobrow Post #498; Ladies Auxiliary
Junior Women's Club
Kiwanis Club of Teaneck
Knights of Columbus, Chief Justice White Council
League of Women Voters of Teaneck
Lions Club
Little League
Masonic Club, Lodge F & AM, #274
Moose Lodge, #961
National Council of Jewish Women, Teaneck Section
National Women's Committee of Brandeis University
North East Community Organization
O.R.T.
Parent Teacher Association (all schools)
P.T.A. Council
Republican Clubs (Men's and Women's)
Rotary Club
Tall Cedars of Lebanon, Century Forest Lodge #100

Teaneck Athletic Boosters
 Teaneck-Bergen Chorus
 Teaneck-Bogota Council of Church Women United
 Teaneck Camera Club
 Teaneck Citizens for the Public Schools
 Teaneck Political Assembly
 Teaneck Teachers Association
 Teaneck Toastmasters
 Town and Gown Society
 Unico
 Veterans of Foreign Wars, Schoonmaker Post #1429; Ladies Auxiliary
 Volunteer Ambulance Corps
 Women's Club of Teaneck
 Zonta Club of Teaneck-Bergenfield

Many organizations having a sizeable Teaneck membership flourish in the area, in addition to the purely local ones listed above. A brief sampling is given here.

Amateur Movie Society of Bergen County
 American Association of University Women (Northern Valley Chapter)
 American Association of the United Nations (Northern Valley Chapter)
 Association for Retarded Children
 Bergen County Chapter, Alcoholics Anonymous
 Bergen County Artists Guild
 Bergen County Association for Mental Health
 Bergen County Council of Social Agencies
 Bergen County Federation of Garden Clubs
 Bergen County Historical Society
 Civic Music Association
 Congress of Racial Equality
 National Association for the Advancement of Colored People
 National Society for Constitutional Security, New Jersey Chapter
 National Urban League
 United World Federalists
 Alumni and Alumnae chapters of numerous colleges are also active.

Bus Information

Four bus companies provide transportation from Teaneck to both New York City bus terminals (41st Street and 178th Street) and to surrounding communities. They are Public Service Coordinated Transport, Manhattan Transit Company, Rockland Coach Company, and Intercity Transportation Company.

Public Service

*Bus Towns Connected and
 Teaneck Streets Traversed*

- #1 Paterson - Garden State Plaza
 - Edgewater VIA DeGraw
 Avenue, Teaneck Road,
 Fycke Lane and Glenwood
 Avenue
- #72 Hackensack - Dumont VIA
 Cedar Lane and Teaneck
 Road
- #78 Hackensack - Englewood -
 New York (178th Street)
 VIA Cedar Lane, River
 Road, West Englewood
 Avenue, State Street, Teaneck
 Road and Forest Avenue.
 (Rush hour expresses use
 Route 4.)
- #80 Hasbrouck Heights -
 Hackensack - New York City
 (178th Street) VIA Cedar
 Lane, Teaneck Road and
 Route 4.
- #82 Bergen Mall - Hackensack -
 New York City (178th Street)
 VIA Fort Lee Road
- #86 Dumont - Englewood - New
 York (178th Street) VIA
 Teaneck Road, Tryon
 Avenue (Rush hour expresses
 use Route 4)
- #122 Dumont - Jersey City (Journal
 Square) VIA Teaneck Road,
 West Englewood Avenue,
 Queen Anne Road, Fort Lee
 Road and Teaneck Road
- #167 Dumont - New York City
 (41st Street) VIA Teaneck

Road, West Englewood
 Avenue, Queen Anne Road,
 Fort Lee Road and
 Teaneck Road

- #168 Hackensack - New York City
 (41st Street) VIA Cedar Lane
 and Queen Anne Road

Rockland

- #11 Spring Valley - New York
 City (178th Street) VIA
 Route 4
- #21 Oradell - New York City
 (178th Street) VIA River
 Road and Route 4
- #22 Hillsdale - New York City
 (178th Street OR 41st Street)
 VIA Route 4
- #25 New Milford - New York City
 (178th Street OR 41st Street)
 VIA Route 4, New Jersey
 Turnpike

Manhattan

- #54 Rochelle Park - Garden State
 Plaza - New York City (41st
 Street) VIA Main Street
 (Bogota and Ridgewood Park)
 and New Jersey Turnpike
- #55 Hackensack - New York City
 (41st Street) VIA Cedar Lane
 and Queen Anne Road

Intercity

- #40 Paterson - New York City
 (178th Street) VIA Route 4
- #45 Saddle Brook OR Ridgewood
 - New York City (178th
 Street) VIA Cedar Lane,
 River Road and Route 4
- #65 Bergen Mall - New York City
 (178th Street) VIA Fort Lee
 Road

IMPORTANT TEANECK TELEPHONE NUMBERS

To report a Fire or Police Emergency	Dial Operator
Fire Department	837-2085
Police Department	836-2600
	837-2600
Holy Name Hospital	837-3070
Volunteer Ambulance Corps	836-2600
Board of Health	837-6512
Municipal Building	837-1600
Board of Education	837-2232
Public Library	837-4171
Recreation Department	837-7130
Welfare Director	837-1600
The Record (newspaper)	487-8000
Hackensack Water Company	487-0011
Public Service Electric & Gas Co.	568-7000
	342-7000
To call a doctor in an emergency, if your own physician is not available	342-4357

Thomas J. Costa, *Mayor*
Max A. Hasse, *Deputy Mayor*
Frank W. Burr, *Councilman*
John P. Dougherty, *Councilman*
Francis E. Hall, *Councilman*
Isaac G. McNatt, *Councilman*
S. Bradford Menkes, *Councilman*

Additional copies may be obtained in the Municipal Building